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## PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ali LAAYOUN et al.

Application No.: 09/736,151

Group Art Unit: 4632 1637

Filed: December 15, 2000

Docket No.: 104959

For: PROCESS FOR LABELING A NUCLEIC ACID

## SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 30, Table 5, delete current Table and insert therefor:

Table 5: Fluorescein Labeling of RNA and DNA oligonucleotides determined by MALDI-

TOF mass spectrometry.

Labeling	*	SEQ ID NO: 11	SEQ ID NO: 10	SEQ ID NO: 7	SEQ ID NO: 5
Agent	Metal	(RNA)	(RNA)	(RNA)	(DNA)
5-BMF	$Zn^{2+}$	+	++	+	++
	Tb³⁺		ND	-	+
	None (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-	- *	-	-
6-IA-F	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	-	-	+ .	++
	Tb <sup>3+</sup>	-	<del>-</del>	ND	-
	None (H <sub>2</sub> O)	-	<u>-</u>	-	-

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